

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: G.A. Demopoulos et al. Attorney Docket No.: OMER17356
Application No.: 09/839,633 Group Art Unit: 1614
Filed: April 20, 2001 Examiner: W. Jarvis
Title: IRRIGATION SOLUTION AND METHOD FOR INHIBITION OF PAIN
AND INFLAMMATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 14, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to Examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-19.

Please enter new claims 20-50 as follows:

20. A method of preemptively inhibiting pain and inflammation at a wound during a surgical procedure, comprising delivering to a wound during a surgical procedure a solution comprising at least one soluble receptor, wherein the solution is applied locally and perioperatively to the surgical site.

21. The method of Claim 20, wherein the soluble receptor is selected from the group consisting of tumor necrosis factor (TNF) soluble receptors, interleukin-1 (IL-1) cytokine receptors, class I cytokine receptors, and receptor tyrosine kinases.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein the soluble receptor is selected from the groups of soluble receptors consisting of sTNFR, chimeric rhTNFR:Fc, human type I IL-1R, human type II IL-1R and shuman IL-1R fusion protein with DYKDDDDK on N-terminus.

23. The method of Claim 20, wherein the soluble receptor is selected from the groups of soluble receptors consisting of soluble IL-2 receptor subfamily, soluble IL-6 cytokine receptor subfamily and fibroblast growth factor receptor family.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein the soluble receptor is selected from the group consisting of sIL-6R, bFGF receptor, PDGF and sFGFR.

25. The method of Claim 20, wherein the solution further comprises at least one additional pain/inflammation inhibitory agent selected to act on a different molecular target than the soluble receptor.

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